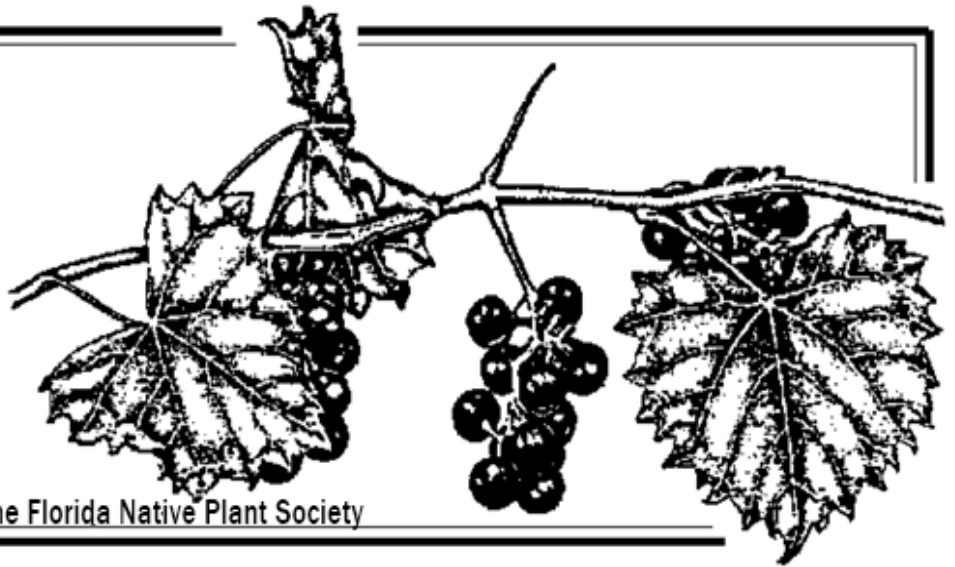


# The Suncoast Grapevine

Newsletter of the Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society



July 2023

Volume 40, Number 7

## Potluck and Program

July 12, 6 to 8:30 pm

Tampa Audubon, Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group, Suncoast Chapter of FNPS

Tampa Garden Club, 2629 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa 33629

Speaker: William Freund, President and Founder of fStop Foundation

Potluck dinner and program hosted by Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. **Bring a dish to share** and meet with members of all 3 organizations for good food and an inspiring presentation. Suncoast will provide drinks, plates and eating utensils.



Our speaker is William Freund, president and founder of fStop Foundation, a nonprofit using videos and photography to create conservation awareness. Mr. Freund will present on the importance of wildlife crossings and corridors. Using wildlife cameras, fStop has captured stunning footage documenting panther movement. The footage supports the design and placement of crossings on major roadways, which would otherwise be significant barriers.

**Please bring non-perishable food items to donate to St. Vincent de Paul food pantry - no glass containers please.**

**Volunteers are needed to assist – please contact Tina or Virginia.**




## July Field Trip – USF Botanical Garden

Friday, July 14. 9:30 am.

Join us from 9:30AM-12:00PM for a special guided tour of the Gardens. We will visit the new native gardens and other areas as well. Cost is \$6, pay at the gate. **Preregistration required.**

Contact Tina (305-298-6381 ([mablepatterson@hotmail.com](mailto:mablepatterson@hotmail.com))) if you need directions. We are well into the heat and humidity season, so be sure to have sun protection and plenty of water.

Learn More about the Gardens   
<https://www.usf.edu/.../botanical.../visit/wild-life.aspx>



## There is Still Time!

Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park. Fall camping Thurs. night Oct. 19 departing on Sun. Oct. 22. Some cabin and tent sites are available (contact Tina) or reserve your own. It should be the height of fall wildflowers.



*Fuzzy-footed caterpillar, Artace cribrarius spotted by Steve Dickmand and photographed by Virginia Overstreet at Brooker Creek*



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*Board Meeting*

*July 10, 7:00pm*

*All members are welcome. You can propose agenda items.*

*Contact Tina (305-298-6381 ([mablepatterson@hotmail.com](mailto:mablepatterson@hotmail.com))) for more information. This will be an online meeting.*

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## Volunteer Opportunities

**Chapter Representative** - Do you know what a Chapter Representative does? Do you like meeting people with similar interests? Would you like to help create educational materials relevant to our area?

Most meetings are virtual (Zoom), but there are occasional opportunities to travel and see new places.

If you are interested, contact Virginia Overstreet.

**T Shirt Sales Coordinator** - It's been quite a few years since our chapter ordered T shirts. We are looking for someone to coordinate T shirt sales. We plan to use a company that allows members to order their own shirts in colors of their choice. We can provide a file with the chapter logo for the front of the shirts.

Contact Virginia, 8135413187, if you have any questions about these volunteer opportunities.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Native Plant Garden Maintenance

Our chapter coordinates with the Hillsborough County Parks to maintain native plant gardens at Lettuce Lake, Morris Bridge, Flatwoods, and Trout Creek parks.

To volunteer, contact the lead green thumbs for the gardens as follows:

**Lettuce Lake:** Workday every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. Tina (Mable) Patterson, email [mablepatterson@hotmail.com](mailto:mablepatterson@hotmail.com) or phone (305) 298-6381, text or call and leave name and message.

**Morris Bridge:** Mike Fite, email [fitemf@gmail.com](mailto:fitemf@gmail.com).

**Flatwoods Park:** Mary Miller, email [limpkin1945@verizon.net](mailto:limpkin1945@verizon.net)

**Trout Creek:** Mike Fite, email [fitemf@gmail.com](mailto:fitemf@gmail.com).

Thank you to Merrilee Wallbrunn for volunteering to be our new **Site Visit Coordinator** - We offer site visits to new members who want help identifying plants in their landscapes. We also conduct site visits when an organization submits a request for a grant to plant a native garden. These site visits are interesting and educational for those of us who participate. You don't need an advanced level of plant knowledge to join this team. This is a fun way to help the chapter.

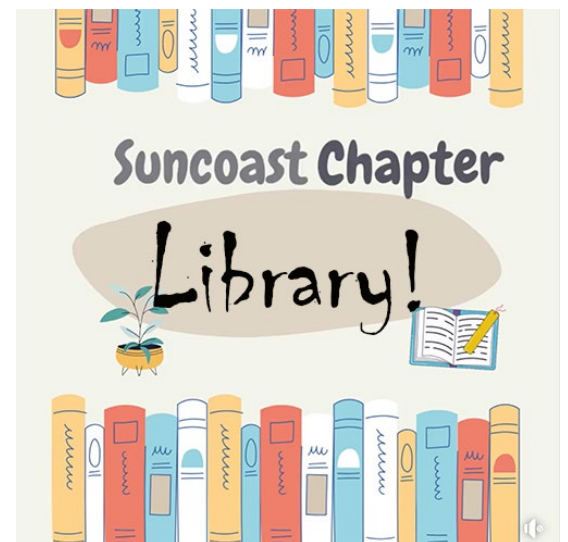
## Library Books

Books are being kept at our storage location and we will only be bringing requested volumes to meetings.

To check out books from the library:

Review the list of books available in the library and available at <https://suncoast.fnpschapters.org/data/uploads/pdfs/suncoast-library.pdf>.

Select a book from the link below and contact [mablepatterson@hotmail.com](mailto:mablepatterson@hotmail.com). You must be a current member on file in our data base. The book will be brought to the next in-person meeting or workday and you will need to sign the checkout form. Books must be returned at the next in-person meeting. The 2 reference-only volumes can be viewed at meetings by request.

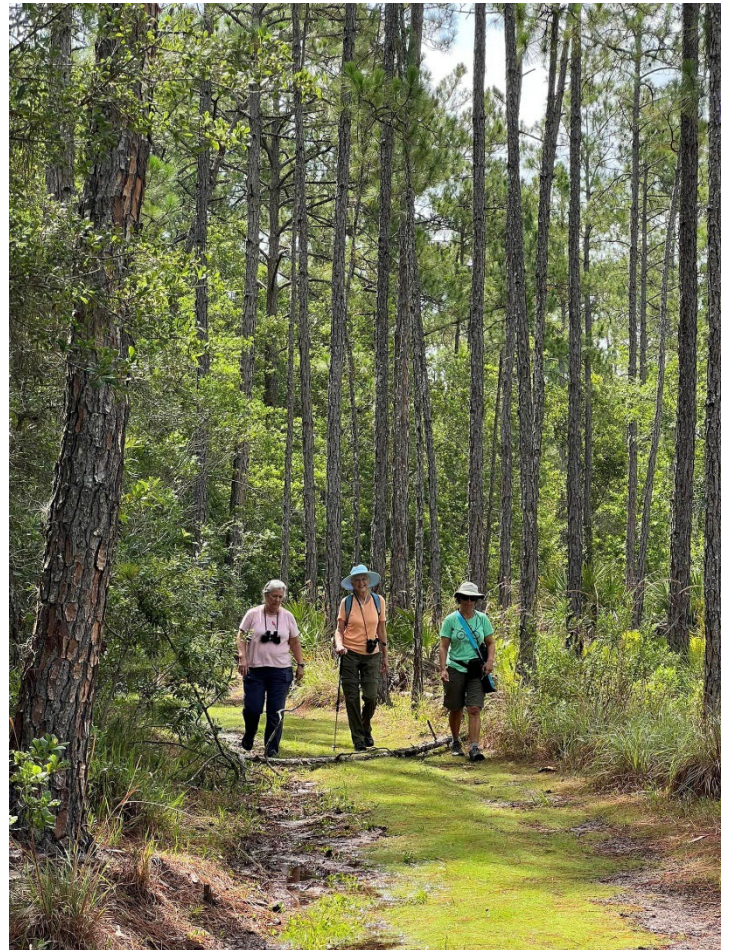


## Field Trip in Review: Brooker Creek, June 2023

The June field trip to the Brooker Creek Preserve was warm and sunny and a bit muggy. Steve Dickman did not disappoint us...he made sure we came back with wet feet! We were happy to have a good turnout, and several members of the Pinellas and Nature Coast Chapters.

There are lots more on our Facebook site to enjoy.

*Photos by Virginia Overstreet*



*The mission of the Florida Native Plant Society is to preserve, conserve, and restore the native plants and native plant communities of Florida*

## Meet the New Folks on the FNPS Board of Directors



### Athena Philips – Vice President for Administration

*Citrus Chapter (Lecanto, Citrus County), FNPS member 2015-present*

Athena is committed to helping the Society be a dynamic conservation organization by fostering stewardship among the members. She also led the Conference Committee in for this year and will be continuing in that role as well. She is also active in the Citrus Chapter.



### Chris Moran - Treasurer

*Magnolia Chapter (Tallahassee, Liberty County), FNPS member 2020-present*

Chris has over 30 years experience as a CPA in Florida. He spent the majority of his career working with not-for-profits and local governments. He joined the FNPS Board last year, and will continue to be on the FNPS Finance Committee.



### Adam Arendell - Director

*Ixia Chapter (Jacksonville, Duval County), FNPS member 2016-present*

Adam is an active member and leader of his chapter. He ran for the FNPS board because he would like to have a greater impact educating the public on Florida's vanishing natural areas. Educating young Floridians is one of the most important ways we can instill the importance and stewardship of native plants and the ecosystems they're found in. He also wants to be effective on state level conservation issues.



### (MAC) Camacho-Viera – Director

*Tarflower Chapter (Orlando, Orange County), FNPS member 2019-present*

MAC is an active leader of the Tarflower Chapter. MAC is experienced in collaborative projects with other organizations sharing the vision and mission of the Society on an ongoing basis across the state and beyond. She was re-elected to this position.



### Deborah (Deb) Curry

*Marion Big Scrub Chapter (Anthony, Marion County), FNPS member 2013-present*

Deb is interested in the Florida Native Plant Society continuing to be a society of knowledge, able to assistance in guiding the inclusion of our native habitats, communities and plants in all plantings, from city planners to developers.



### Susan Earley

*Suncoast Chapter (Tampa, Hillsborough County), FNPS member 2016-present*

Susan is an ardent and vocal advocate for learning about the “real” Florida environment and educating others willing to listen and learn and probably to several who wish she’d quit. She is eager to bring her skills as both an educator and an advocate to work with FNPS for the Florida that lies beyond her yard.

## Meet the New Folks on the FNPS Board of Directors (continued)



### Jane Graham, Esq. - Director

*Pinellas Chapter (Safety Harbor, Pinellas County), FNPS member 2020-present*

Jane Graham, Esq. is a Florida Bar Board Certified Attorney in City, County, and Local Government Law. She is active in leadership in her chapter. She admires the science-based education and advocacy of FNPS and its pursuit of excellence in sustainable landscaping.



### Gage LaPierre – Director

*Paynes Prairie Chapter (Gainesville, Alachua County), FNPS member 2021-present*

Gage brings a history of nursery management and restoration science to the BOD. He hopes to share his experience, knowledge of and passion for native plant propagation, and restoration of native ecosystems.



### David Martin

*Eugenia Chapter (Vero Beach, Indian River County), FNPS member 1985-present*

Dave just finished his term as FNPS Vice President of Administration and is continuing on the Board as a Director. He will be continuing to share his experience in natural resources planning and management.



## Improving the Native Garden at Lettuce Lake

Text and Photos by Virginia Overstreet

UF/IFAS Hillsborough Extension received a Viva Florida grant from the Florida Wildflower Foundation to plant more native plants at our garden at Lettuce Lake Conservation Park. They supplied the plants and Suncoast Chapter will be responsible for maintenance. A hard working crew of Master Gardener Volunteers planted 60 plants. Tina Patterson, Patty Moore, Susan Heyer, Mike Fite, Virginia Overstreet and others also helped with planting and watering. We are so grateful that the park staff has allowed us to expand this beautiful garden. Check it out the next time you visit the park.



## Book Signing

Tampa Bay Butterfly Foundation (free event), July 27

Registration required: <https://tampa-bay-butterfly-foundation.jumbula.com/2023ClassesWorkshops/AtHomeWithNatureJohnGidding>



The poster is a vertical layout. At the top left is the logo for 'Little Red Wagon Native Nursery', featuring a red wagon with black wheels and a handle, set against a blue and green background. Below the logo are three small images: a garden scene with various plants, a landscape design plan showing a house and garden layout, and a photograph of trees with vibrant autumn foliage. To the right of these images is the author's name 'JOHN GIDDING' with 'AS SEEN ON HGTV' underneath. The title 'At Home with Nature' is prominently displayed in large, dark green letters. Below the title is the subtitle 'A Guide to Sustainable, Natural Landscaping'. On the right side of the poster is a black and white portrait of John Gidding, a man with short dark hair and a light beard, wearing a plaid shirt. At the bottom right, there is a yellow and green background with a black butterfly silhouette. The date 'July 27, 2023' is written in large, bold black letters. Below the date, the text 'TAMPA BAY BUTTERFLY FOUNDATION' is written in bold, with 'BUTTERFLY' in orange and 'TAMPA BAY' and 'FOUNDATION' in black. At the bottom, the address '411-A Henderson Blvd, South Tampa' is written in blue, and the website 'BUTTERFLYTAMPA.COM' is written in large, bold red letters.

LittleRedWagon  
NativeNursery

JOHN GIDDING  
AS SEEN ON HGTV

At  
Home  
with  
Nature

A Guide to  
Sustainable,  
Natural  
Landscaping

July 27, 2023

TAMPA BAY  
BUTTERFLY  
FOUNDATION

411-A Henderson Blvd, South Tampa  
BUTTERFLYTAMPA.COM



## Local Native Nurseries

Our local native nurseries are our fans, and they need our business. Call for retail days and hours.

### Hillsborough County

**Little Red Wagon**  
4113 Henderson Blvd  
Tampa, Florida 33629



Phone: 813-755-9579  
Website: <http://www.littleredwagonnativenursery.com>  
Email: [Info@ButterflyTampa.com](mailto:Info@ButterflyTampa.com)

**Springer Environmental**  
5926 US92, Plant city, FL 33566



Retail:  
M-F 9:00-4:00,  
Sat. by appt.  
Phone: 813-659-0370  
Website: <http://springerenvironmental.com>  
Email: [troy@springerenvironmental.com](mailto:troy@springerenvironmental.com)

### Manatee County

**Sweet Bay Nursery**  
10824 Erie Rd, Parrish, Florida 34211



Phone: 941-776-0501  
Website: <http://sweetbaynursery.com/>  
Email: [sweetbaynursery@gmail.com](mailto:sweetbaynursery@gmail.com)

**Green Seasons**  
12340 FL-62  
Parrish, Florida 34219



Phone: 941-776-1605  
Website: <http://www.greenseasonsnursery.com>  
Email: [seaoater@gmail.com](mailto:seaoater@gmail.com)

### Pinellas County



**Wilcox Nursery & Landscape**  
12501 Indian Rocks Rd  
Largo, Florida 33774-3037

Phone: 727-595-2073  
Website: <http://www.wilcoxnursery.com>  
Email: [Wilcox12501@gmail.com](mailto:Wilcox12501@gmail.com)

**Twigs & Leaves**  
610 27th St S  
St Petersburg, Florida 33712



Phone: 727-822-5400  
Website: <http://www.twigsandleaves.com>  
Email: [twigsandleavessp@gmail.com](mailto:twigsandleavessp@gmail.com)

### Lake County

**Green Isle Gardens**  
11303 SR 33  
Groveland, FL 34736



Phone: 407-948-8980  
Website: <http://greenislegardens.com>  
Email: [gignatives@gmail.com](mailto:gignatives@gmail.com)

### Polk County

**The Nectary**  
1047 E Main St.  
Lakeland, FL 33801



Phone: 863-937-7879  
Website: <http://thenectarylakid.com>  
Email: [thenectarylakid@gmail.com](mailto:thenectarylakid@gmail.com)

## Officers and Board of Directors

President –Virginia Overstreet  
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[ecotypes@outlook.com](mailto:ecotypes@outlook.com)

Secretary - Tina (Mable) Patterson  
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Treasurer - Niki Cribbs  
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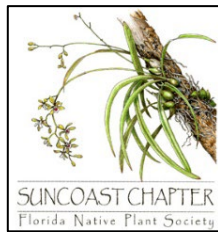
## Newsletter Submissions

### Deadline for June Newsletter: July 25

Send contributions to Shirley Denton at [ecotypes@outlook.com](mailto:ecotypes@outlook.com).

Contributions should be original, with references where appropriate. Photographs and drawings should belong to the submitter or submitted along with written permission from the owner and be of appropriate resolution for printing (a width of 1000 pixels is generally adequate for this newsletter, but err toward larger so that they pictures can be cropped if needed). All submissions should be in formats standardly used in documents and readable on Windows PCs.

Submissions will be reviewed for accuracy with preference for being relevant to the FNPS mission and local environmental events.



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## Program Managers

### Fieldtrips

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Tina Patterson  
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305-298-6381

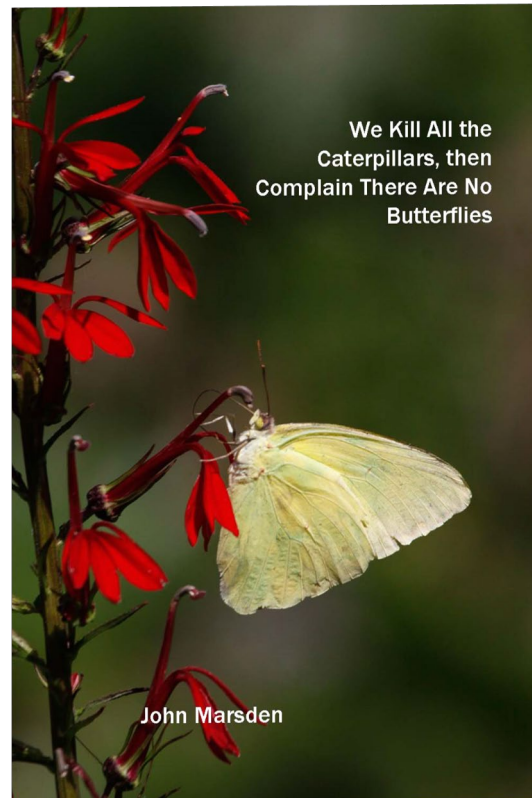
### Newsletter

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John Marsden